

# **EXHIBIT 5**

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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In Re: LEHMAN BROTHERS	) Chapter 11 Case
	) No. 08-13555
HOLDINGS, INC., et al.,	) (JMP)
	) (Jointly
Debtors.	) Administered)
_____	)

DEPOSITION OF DAVID F. BABEL  
New York, New York  
Friday, March 7, 2014

Reported by:  
PATRICIA A. BIDONDE, RPR

1 D. Babbel

2 P R O C E E D I N G S

3 D A V I D F. B A B B E L,

4 called as a witness, having been duly  
5 sworn by a Notary Public, was examined  
6 and testified as follows:

7 EXAMINATION BY

8 MR. LAWRENCE:

9 Q. Please state your full name for  
10 the record and spell your last name, please.

11 A. David Frederick Babbel,  
12 B-a-b-b-e-l.

13 Q. What is your business address?

14 A. 215 Wakefield Road, Bryn Mawr,  
15 Pennsylvania.

16 Q. We were introduced before the  
17 deposition. My name is Paul Lawrence, and I  
18 represent the Washington State Tobacco  
19 Settlement Authority.

20 I appreciate your time today.  
21 You understand you've been retained as an  
22 expert witness in this case, correct?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. And it looks, from your  
25 materials, that you've testified many times

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2 forward rates from future rates?

3 A. Forward rates are today's price  
4 for locking in a new commitment.

5 Q. Because the market -- you're not  
6 using market data to predict future rates.  
7 You're using market data to understand the  
8 market as of a given day. Correct?

9 A. That's correct.

10 Q. And the ability to use market  
11 data to understand forward rates assumes that  
12 there's an active market that you can trade  
13 in. Correct?

14 MR. TAMBE: Objection to the form  
15 of the question.

16 Q. In other words, if you're  
17 deciding about buying T-Bills and you're  
18 deciding about the different rates that are  
19 available and the different terms and you're  
20 analyzing forward rates, you're using market  
21 data on the assumption that you can then go  
22 out and transact in T-Bills in the market.  
23 Correct?

24 MR. TAMBE: Same objection.

25 A. In both versions of your

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2 the agreements. Correct?

3 A. That's correct.

4 Q. And if I wanted to discount that  
5 to present value, how would you do that?

6 A. It would depend, as I said, on  
7 who the counterparty is, who is going to make  
8 those payments.

9 Q. Right now, there's no  
10 counterparty who is going to make those  
11 payments?

12 A. That's right.

13 Q. So what assumption would you make  
14 in order to do present value calculation in  
15 the sum of those payments?

16 A. Well, I wouldn't assume the  
17 federal government is going to pay it. So  
18 you're going to have some other party -- you  
19 would look at the nonfederal government analog  
20 to that to be the fixed leg of a swap.

21 Q. So what would your best opinion  
22 be about what you would look to? Are you  
23 talking about LIBOR? Are we talking about  
24 some other index? Are we talking about the  
25 rate of return that TSA was actually receiving

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2 for a period of time? How would you figure  
3 that out?

4 MR. TAMBE: Object to the form.

5 You can answer.

6 A. It really depends upon the damage  
7 theory, I suppose. I wasn't retained as an  
8 expert on damages, and I haven't thought about  
9 damages.

10 The focus of my testimony is  
11 whether forward rates of interest are used in  
12 valuing swaps. So I don't have an opinion.  
13 It depends on the damage theory that the  
14 courts decide is appropriate in this case.

15 Q. Explain that to me. What about  
16 the damage theory would inform your decision  
17 on how to discount a current value?

18 MR. TAMBE: Objection to the form  
19 of the question.

20 A. Your hypothetical -- your  
21 question is looking at a series of future  
22 payments according to reports, the next 23  
23 years or so, whatever remains of that. And  
24 you want me to come up with -- you're asking  
25 how would I come up with a present value.

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2 Q. That wasn't my question. My  
3 question is simply: Whether or not you would  
4 agree that the forward rate predicted on a  
5 given day for eight years out is more likely  
6 than not going to be different than the actual  
7 rate on that given day eight years out.

8 MR. TAMBE: Objection to the  
9 form.

10 A. Well, now you said the forward  
11 rate predicted.

12 Q. I know you don't like to do the  
13 prediction work.

14 A. It doesn't predict.

15 Q. The forward curve gives you a  
16 number?

17 A. It gives you a number, today's  
18 price of making a future commitment.

19 Q. Right. And you go out eight  
20 years, and you look to see whether or not the  
21 six-month yield is at the number the forward  
22 curve generated.

23 Would you agree it's more likely  
24 than not that the eight-year-out number is  
25 going to be different than the number that was

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2 generated by the forward curve?

3 A. You're creating a link where  
4 there's no necessary link. Eight years from  
5 now there's different information, different  
6 prices.

7 The forward rate tells you  
8 today's price of making a future commitment.  
9 It doesn't tell you the future price of making  
10 that commitment. You have to add a whole  
11 bunch of assumptions to get to that point.

12 Q. Now, the typical oversimplified  
13 version of modeling is, sort of, the  
14 garbage-in-garbage-out equation, which means  
15 that the quality of the data input is  
16 important to understanding the quality of the  
17 model. Correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And the forward curve model  
20 depends on market data. Correct? The data  
21 inputs are market information?

22 A. The forward curve does not depend  
23 upon market data. The calibration of the  
24 forward curve depends upon market data.

25 Q. The inputs into the -- the data



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2 out. Correct?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. With economists, I think you  
5 would be asking them to do their best  
6 prediction on what rates would be on agency  
7 securities five, ten, fifteen years out. But  
8 you could generate a forward curve based on  
9 economists' predictions. Correct?

10 A. That's not a forward curve. A  
11 forward curve has to do only with current  
12 prices.

13 Q. So you would generate -- you  
14 would generate a curve and call it something  
15 else?

16 A. Call it "predictions," yeah.

17 Q. Because, certainly, the forward  
18 curve is not about predictions.

19 A. No. It is to some people. But  
20 that's not how it's constructed.

21 Q. That's now how it's supposed to  
22 be used in your view as an economist and in  
23 your view, based on your opinion, in this  
24 case?

25 A. I won't say that's not how it's

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2 supposed to be used. People can use the  
3 curve. And if they can get some information  
4 on or about the future, bless their hearts.  
5 But it's calculated based upon the present.

6 Q. You're not opining that it's a  
7 good predictive tool. Correct?

8 A. I'm not saying one way or the  
9 other. There's a big debate about that.

10 MR. LAWRENCE: Why don't we take  
11 a lunch break.

12 (Lunch recess taken from  
13 12:34 p.m. to 1:41 p.m.)

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2 A. Forward rates are important  
3 whether you can lock them in or not. They  
4 tell you the price of money at different  
5 periods of time, today's price of locking  
6 those in. Whether you can lock it in or not,  
7 the value is independent of whether you can do  
8 it.

9 Q. Well, if I don't have the  
10 capability to invest in the ways that are  
11 necessary to lock in the rates derived from  
12 the forward curve, what good does it do me?

13 A. It tells you what the costs are.  
14 And it tells you what the market value is.

15 Q. It doesn't tell you what the  
16 value is to me in terms of what I can transact  
17 in the market. Correct?

18 A. It doesn't tell you that.

19 Q. Now, you would agree that the --  
20 and if the word "indication" is wrong, let me  
21 know.

22 A. Can I go back to the last  
23 question. I don't know that I -- could you  
24 read that again for me. I think I was  
25 incomplete in my answer.

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2 (Record read.)

3 Q. Can I go on to my next question?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Thank you. And, if the word  
6 "indication" bothers you, let me know. And  
7 tell me what would be a better word.

8 So the forward curve as of March  
9 25, 2009, indicated a -- how short-term  
10 interest rates would look from 2009 through  
11 February 24, 2014. Correct?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Please correct my statement.

14 MR. TAMBE: Objection to the form  
15 of the question.

16 You can answer.

17 Q. What is incorrect about my  
18 question?

19 A. How short-term rates should look.  
20 I think those were your words.

21 Q. I want to use the terminology  
22 that works for you. So you tell me what  
23 terminology works for you. What does the  
24 forward rate tell us about -- other than what  
25 market participants think short-term rates

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2 will be, it doesn't tell us anything more than  
3 that. Right?

4 MR. TAMBE: Objection to form.

5 A. It doesn't necessarily tell you  
6 that.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. It tells you the price of money  
9 today to lock in the future commitment. It  
10 has embedded in it the consensus of the market  
11 for what the costs of making those commitments  
12 are.

13 Q. So if we look at the forward  
14 curve as of March 25, 2009, it will -- it  
15 indicated what the price would be to lock in  
16 the interest rate as of February 24, 2014.  
17 Correct?

18 A. What the price would be to lock  
19 in the interest rate as of February 24, yes,  
20 it would tell you.

21 Q. And it would tell you what the  
22 yield would be as of February 24, 2014, that  
23 you were locking in. Correct?

24 A. It would.

25 Q. So is it fair to say that the

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2 yields that appear on the forward curve as of  
3 March 25, 2009, are different than the yield  
4 that could have been locked in on January of  
5 2014, if you had a forward curve, say, on that  
6 day?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Different than January of 2010?

9 A. It would be different than March  
10 26 of 2009.

11 Q. Every day is different?

12 A. Every day.

13 Q. So if we wanted to actually look  
14 at the reality of short-term interest rates up  
15 to February 24, 2014, there's actual real data  
16 that we could look to and say, here are the  
17 actual short-term interest rates. Correct?

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. Okay. And I think, as you've  
20 just said, if we ran a future curve as of the  
21 date of your report, February 24, 2014, it  
22 would look different in terms of short-term  
23 interest rates on a future curve on March 25,  
24 2009. Correct?

25 A. Yes.

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2 what you have stated, and others -- there was  
3 not an active market for those sorts of  
4 contracts. But there was, certainly, a very  
5 active market for both legs of that contract.

6 Q. Well, that's not what this -- did  
7 you read this agreement?

8 A. I did.

9 Q. Okay. Does the agreement say  
10 you're supposed to get quotes for some  
11 different kind of contract, than the RFA?

12 A. Well, you can't get quotes for  
13 the RFA. You have to value it in pieces.

14 Q. That's not what it says here,  
15 does it? Does it say, "If you can't get  
16 quotes, then you value it in pieces"?

17 MR. TAMBE: Objection to the form  
18 of the question.

19 And just if you can, just let him  
20 finish answering.

21 A. If you keep reading, if you go to  
22 Section 7.6, it says that when you're doing  
23 such an operation, you have to do it from the  
24 perspective of the dealer, basically.

25 Because dealers are the ones that

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2 offer this. In fact, they said "Lehman's  
3 perspective." And that's the way the market  
4 values these things, and you do it in pieces.  
5 You do the best you can.

6 These instruments are valued all  
7 the time even though they're not traded. And  
8 they have to be valued, because they're  
9 reported mark to market on a daily basis. The  
10 CME requires that they use forward rates to  
11 value them.

12 The London Clearing House says  
13 you have to use forward rates to value them,  
14 and nothing that I've ever read says you have  
15 to use Hasterok's assumption.

16 And had Lehman assumed, or anyone  
17 assumed, what Hasterok does, they never would  
18 have entered into the deal. They would have  
19 said, "Okay. You're giving us \$45 million,  
20 but it's only worth \$15 million or \$10  
21 million. Because you're limiting us to only  
22 earn 65 basis points for the next 23 years."

23 Q. So is it correct then that your  
24 opinion is based on the assumption that the  
25 TSA loss has to be valued from the dealer side



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2 of the market?

3 MR. TAMBE: Objection to the form  
4 of the question.

5 A. It -- you use -- the way I read  
6 that -- and I'm not giving a legal opinion,  
7 just the way I read the contract -- is that  
8 you're supposed to use the typical conventions  
9 that dealers would use.

10 Q. So then is your opinion based on  
11 that assumption; that is, your opinions about  
12 the propriety, the use of the forward curve,  
13 et cetera, based on the assumption that you  
14 value this from the dealer side of the market  
15 using dealer-standard valuation methodologies?

16 A. That's a good question. I would  
17 value it the same whether I were the buyer or  
18 the dealer, because those are the only values  
19 that are traded. So it really doesn't matter.

20 Q. But if TSA can't transact, why do  
21 traded values matter to TSA?

22 MR. TAMBE: Objection to the form  
23 of the question.

24 You want him to speculate as to  
25 what matters to the TSA?

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2 Q. I'm not suggesting you know. I'm  
3 just asking how do you determine what their  
4 total losses will be. As you said, there may  
5 not be losses. You have to go through the  
6 valuation first. How do you value what the  
7 total losses will be?

8 A. You look at what they could have  
9 lost in value. That's how I would do it. But  
10 I'm not the damages expert. I don't know the  
11 definition of damages.

12 They're talking here about a  
13 termination amount. I know something about  
14 valuing swaps, fixed pieces, and floating  
15 pieces.

16 My testimony is really restricted  
17 to methodology and how swaps are -- take  
18 advantage of or valued by forward rates of  
19 interest. So I wasn't asked to really do  
20 this, what you're asking me now.

21 Q. Okay. Fair enough. I do need  
22 that back though.

23 A. Sure. (Hanging.)

24 Q. Have you ever been asked to give  
25 an opinion about a party's total losses?

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2 MR. TAMBE: Objection to the form  
3 of the question.

4 A. I don't know. I don't think so.

5 Q. Okay. When you use the term  
6 "historically low short-term interest rates,"  
7 what interest rates are you referring to?

8 A. Interest rates during my time,  
9 since I started looking at it.

10 Q. What instrument? When you say  
11 "interest rates," it could be a money market  
12 funds, a T-Bill, a --

13 A. I'm sorry. Treasuries.

14 Q. Treasuries?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. You say the 65 -- the .65 percent  
17 interest rate ignores historical record.

18 Do you see that?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. It certainly reflects the  
21 historical record from March 2009 to February  
22 2014. Correct?

23 MR. TAMBE: Objection to the  
24 form.

25 A. I'd have to look at the data.